

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LENING 02486 060857Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

/029 W

-----121087 060905Z /10

R 060852Z SEP 78  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4655  
INFO USICA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL LENINGRAD 02486

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SCUL  
SUBJECT: ABORTIVE AUGUST 21 DEMONSTRATION BY LENINGRAD  
ARTISTS

REF: LENINGRAD 01694

1. CONGEN RECENTLY LEARNED OF DEMONSTRATION PLANNED BY A SMALL GROUP OF LOCAL LENINGRAD ARTISTS AND OTHERS ON ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AUGUST 21. DEMONSTRATION WAS TO HAVE CONSISTED OF PEACEFUL GATHERING IN PALACE SQUARE, OPPOSITE WINTER PALACE AND FORMER GENERAL STAFF BUILDING. A STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE INVASION SIGNED BY FIVE INDIVIDUALS HAS BEEN CIRCULATED.

2. DEMONSTRATION WAS ABORTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHO ARRESTED SEVERAL OF INTENDED PARTICIPANTS ONE DAY BEFORE DEMONSTRATION. GROUP'S PLANS WERE APPARENTLY RELAYED TO AUTHORITIES BY ARTIST MEMBER OF GROUP.

3. THOSE ARRESTED WERE HELD FOR 3-4 DAYS AND RELEASED. THEY INCLUDE IGOR ZAHAROV-ROSS AND VADIM FILIMONOV. ZAHAROV-ROSS' WIFE, ALLA, WAS ALSO DETAINED FOR A DAY, QUESTIONED AND RELEASED. (ZAHAROV-ROSS APPLIED TO EMIGRATE  
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TO ISRAEL SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.)

4. ARTISTS ARE REPORTEDLY NOW PLANNING ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION IN MID-SEPTEMBER TO COMMEMORATE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF UNOFFICIAL EXHIBIT BULLDOZED IN MOSCOW. DEMONSTRATION IS TO TAKE PLACE AT ONE OF CITY DUMPS WHERE SEVERAL ARTISTS WILL BURN THEIR WORK.

5. COMMENT: LOCAL UNOFFICIAL ARTISTS ARE INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATED BY LACK OF LOCAL PUBLIC EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES. ONE ARTIST WAS TOLD RECENTLY BY OFFICIAL OF CITY CULTURAL DIRECTORATE THAT NO MORE UNOFFICIAL EXHIBITS WOULD BE GIVEN OFFICIAL SANCTION FOR THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE. ARTISTS HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY INACTIVE DURING THE SUMMER WITH EXCEPTION OF EVENT NOTED REFTEL, BUT EVENTS NOTED ABOVE MAY SIGNAL UPSWING IN ARTISTS' POLITICAL ACTIVISM. CRUMP

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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